

## August 2017

## **Nickerson State Park**

3488 Main St (Rt. 6A), Brewster, MA 02631

(508) 896-3491

Park Interpreter: <u>Todd.Kelley@state.ma.us</u>

Park Website: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-south/nickerson-state-park.html

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	CCRT Station 10:00am – 12:00pm  Craft Corner at the Nature Center 2:00pm – 3:30pm	3 Early Birding 8:00am – 9:00am  Jr. Ranger: Scout Tracker 10:30am – 12:00pm	4 Off the Beaten Path Hike: Keeler Pond 2:00pm – 4:00pm Night Walk 7:45pm – 9:15pm	5 Creature Feature 1:00pm – 3:00pm Family Campfire 6:30pm – 8:00pm
6 Crosby Mansion Open House Tours 10:00am – 3:00pm Nature Exploration: Forest Discovery 2:00pm - 3:30pm Mammals of Nickerson 7:30pm – 8:30pm	7	8	9  CCRT Station 10:00am - 12:00pm  Stroll by the Bay 5:00pm - 6:30pm	Early Birding: Shorebirds 7:30am – 9:00am  Jr. Ranger: Watershed Wisdom 10:30am – 12:00pm	Off the Beaten Path Hike: Secret Side of NSP 2:00pm – 4:00pm Night Walk 7:45pm – 9:15pm	Creature Feature 1:00pm - 3:00pm Family Campfire 6:30pm - 8:00pm
13 Nature Exploration: Grassy Nook 2:00pm - 3:30pm The Heritage of Nickerson State Park 7:30pm - 8:30pm	14	15	16 CCRT Station 10:00am – 12:00pm Craft Corner at the Nature Center 2:00pm – 3:30pm	17	18 Off the Beaten Path Hike: Higgins Pond 2:00pm – 4:00pm  Night Walk 7:30pm – 9:00pm	19 Creature Feature 1:00pm – 3:00pm Family Campfire 6:30pm – 8:00pm
20 Crosby Mansion Open House Tours 10:00am – 3:00pm Nature Exploration: Climb the Great Divide 2:00pm - 3:30pm Mammals of Nickerson 7:30pm – 8:30pm	21	22	23 CCRT Station 10:00am – 12:00pm Stroll by the Bay 5:00pm – 6:30pm	Early Birding: Shorebirds 7:30am – 9:00am  Jr. Ranger: Orienteering 10:30am – 12:00pm	25 Off the Beaten Path Hike: Silas Road 2:00pm – 4:00pm Night Walk 7:30pm – 9:00pm	Creature Feature 1:00pm – 3:00pm  Family Campfire 6:30pm – 8:00pm

27	28	29	30	31	
Nature Exploration:					
Critical Pond Shore				Early Birding	
Margin				8:00am – 9:00am	1
2:00pm - 3:30pm					
The Heritage of				Jr. Ranger:	
Nickerson State Park				Forestry Ranger	1
7:30pm – 8:30pm				10:30am - 12:00pm	

## **Program Descriptions**

## Things to Know Before You Go!

- All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.
- All children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Reasonable accommodations are available upon advance request.
- Dress for the weather; bring sunscreen, bug spray, water and a snack.
- Rain cancels most programs; call ahead to confirm (508) 896-3491.
- No dogs on walks or at programs. Please note, starting on April 1st to September 15th dogs and other pets are not authorized on the beach, with the exception of service animals, per DCR regulations.
- A daily parking fee of \$8 MA Vehicle, \$15 non-MA. Vehicle fee is collected from 8AM to 4PM. Information about our annual ParksPass can be found here <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/passes-and-fees/buy-parks-pass-dcr-generic.html">http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/passes-and-fees/buy-parks-pass-dcr-generic.html</a>. Seniors (62+, MA resident) can get a lifetime Parks Pass for \$10 at the Park Headquarters.
- Park Trail Map: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/nickerson.pdf">http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/nickerson.pdf</a>.

Nature Center	Visit the Nickerson State Park Nature Center and learn all about the nature of Cape Cod and the history of the Park. Though I have limited times when I am officially scheduled to be open, if you see that my door IS open you are welcome to come in and visit.
Cape Cod Rail Trail Station	Come see the Park Interpreter at the Park entrance to the Cape Cod Rail Trail and learn more about the histrory of the Cape Cod Central Railroad and its connection to the Park. Also learn all about the nature of Cape Cod or just come to say hello. Cancelled in the event of rain.
Stroll by the Bay	Get your feet wet while exploring the inter-tidal zone along the Namskaket flats of Cape Cod Bay. Leisurely fun for the whole family. Bring a net if you have one (we have some for the kids) and wear shoes that can get wet. <b>No</b> bare feet. Park at the end of Crosby Lane. Parking is free at this time of day. Bring bug spray. Cancelled if raining.

Early Birding	Start your day with an easy walk and develop the skills to identify birds by sight, sound, and behavior. We will learn about migration strategies as well as how and where to look for birds. This program is available to all ages and level of ability. Bring binoculars if you have them and we have some if you don't.  August 3: Meet at Fisherman's Landing 1 mile past the Park Store to the left. Cancelled in the event of rain August 10: Shorebirding starts earlier. Meet at Crosby Beach at the end of Crosby Lane. Cancelled if raining. August 24: Shorebirding starts earlier. Meet at Crosby Beach at the end of Crosby Lane. Cancelled if raining. August 31: Meet at Fisherman's Landing 1 mile past the Park Store to the left. Cancelled in the event of rain
Junior Ranger	This program captures the imagination of young people through activities that grow future stewards of the environment. Work toward earning your official Junior Ranger patch and certificate by attending programs and completing the specific activities in the Junior Ranger Activity Book. For ages 7-12. Meet at the Nature Center. Wear good shoes for walking in the woods. Indoor activity in case of rain.
Off the Beaten Path	Join the Nick Hikers on this fun and informative recreational hike series where we explore a different part of Nickerson State Park each week. Each hike is from 2 to 4 miles in length. Please bring water, insect repellent, and wear shoes appropriate for hiking. For adults and older children who can hike moderately difficult trails. Cancelled in the event of rain.  August 4: Keeler Pond. Meet at the Nature Center.  August 11: The Secret Side of NSP. Meet at Fisherman's Landing 1 mile past the Park Store to the left.  August 18: Higgins Pond. Meet at the entrance to Area 7 at the end of Nook Road.  August 25: Silas Road. Meet at Fisherman's Landing 1 mile past the Park Store to the left.
Night Walk	Join in on the fun exploring the sounds of the night as we discover how nocturnal birds and animals use their senses to thrive in the dark. Please, no flashlights, cell phones or flashing light shoes allowed on this walk as we will rely on our own natural night vision. Bring insect repellent and wear good shoes. Meet at Fisherman's Landing 1 mile past the Park Store to the left. Cancelled in the event of rain.
Creature Feature Station	Visit with the Park Interpreter at Flax Pond Beach for this informal Creature Feature presentation about many of the different creatures that call Nickerson State Park home. We'll have hands on bones and things to learn from. Meet nearly 1 mile down Flax Pond Road to the right at Flax Pond beach parking area. Walk the short distance to the beach. Cancelled in the event of rain.
Family Campfire	Come join in the fun at the Nature Center's campfire circle. We will have music to listen to and maybe even sing along with as well as stories and nature observations of the week. Maybe you'll have a story or nature sighting of your own! Meet at the Nature Center. Cancelled in the event of rain.
Nature Exploration	Thematic based nature walks for the whole family exploring a different theme and related habitat throughout all corners of Nickerson State Park. Bring water, insect repellent and wear appropriate shoes for hiking. Cancelled in the event of rain.

	August 6: Forest Discovery. Meet at the entrance of Area 7 all the way at the end of Nook Road.  August 13: Grassy Nook Vernal Pools. Meet along Nook Road 1½ miles past the park store. There is a small turnoff on the left just around the very sharp curve heading toward Area 6. Orange DCR Kubota will be visible.  August 20: Climb the Great Divide. Meet along Nook Road 1½ miles past the park store. There is a small turnoff on the left just around the very sharp curve heading toward Area 6. Orange DCR Kubota will be visible.  August 27: Critical Pond Shore Margin. Meet at the end of Flax Pond Road.
Mammals of Nickerson	Join the Park Interpreter and learn all about the mammals that call NSP home in this slide show presentation. We'll even have some specimens of bones and furs as well. For all ages. Meet at the Amphitheater. Cancelled in the event of rain.
The Heritage of Nickerson State Park	Join the Park Interpreter for a narrated slide show and learn all about the Heritage of Nickerson State Park from the former Fieldstone Hall to Bungalow Estate and how this all connects to the Crosby Mansion. Meet at the Amphitheater. Cancelled in the event of rain.
Craft Corner	Come to the Nature Center and make a unique nature themed craft from simple projects for the younger kids to more complicated projects for the older kids. For ages 4 – 12. Rain or shine.
Crosby Mansion Open House	The Friends of the Crosby Mansion invite you to attend their open house events. Built in 1888, the mansion is located on 163 Crosby Lane off Route 6A across from Nickerson State Park in Brewster. The first, second and third floors will be available for viewing. Docents will be available for questions. If you haven't visited the mansion in a while, come and see what has been accomplished in preserving and restoring this irreplaceable piece of Cape Cod's history. Learn the secret behind "Tawasentha" and try to solve the mystery of why the "n" in "Tawasentha" appears backwards in the dining room mantel above the fireplace. A \$5.00 donation per person over 12 is suggested. Cosponsored by the Department of Conservation & Recreation and the Friends of the Crosby Mansion. The Friends of the Crosby Mansion also offer private and group tours. Please call 508-896-1744 for more details. Rain or shine. <a href="http://www.crosbymansion.com/">http://www.crosbymansion.com/</a>
Discovery Packs	Would you like to try your hand at being your own explorer? You can check out Discovery Packs from the Nature Center at Nickerson State Park. These backpacks are full of cool items that you can use to discover the world around you while staying at the Park. The following Discovery Packs are available to borrow: Birding, Nature Discovery, Insects, and Young Explorers. Please call ahead to reserve your Discovery Pack.
	Discovery Packs can be borrowed Wednesday through Sunday (with some exceptions, please call ahead to reserve). For more information, call the Park Interpreter Todd at (508) 896-3491 or email at <a href="mailto:Todd.Kelley@state.ma.us">Todd.Kelley@state.ma.us</a> .